Co-operation between India and Pakistan in education

†2126. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering upon formulating any scheme for the co-operation in the field of education between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

-THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No specific scheme for cooperation in the field of education between India and Pakistan is under consideration of the Government. However, a Working Group on Education set up by the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission held its first meeting on 20th February 2007 in New Delhi and identified the following areas for collaboration:

(i) Cooperation between the countries through exchange of information, joint workshops, seminars, symposia, exploratory visits, training and collaborative research;

(ii) Linkages in the higher education sector in the areas of Economics, Business Administration, Agriculture, Health, Law, Information Technology, Science and Technical Education;

(iii) Establishment of institutional linkages, especially through the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and the University Grants Commission of India;

(iv) Exchange of printed materia! on educational development in the two countries;

(v) Exchange of experiences between National Book Foundation in Pakistan and National Book Trust (NBT) and the National Council for Educational Research & Training (NCERT) in India for the reproduction of books required for education;

(vi) Exchange of expertise and experience in the fields of elementary, secondary and aduit education

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.